

REMARKS

Applicants courteously acknowledge the Examiner's withdrawal of the previous rejections and allowance of claims 32-43 and 45-52.

Claims 26, 28, 29, and 31 stand finally rejected, however, because the Examiner finds them unclear for reciting "comprising an open reading frame." The Examiner stated that *Rv3908* and *MutT2* are open reading frames, and so, in the Examiner's opinion, the claims are unclear.

Applicants have amended independent claims 26 and 29 to recite "A purified polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO: 30," and "A purified polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO: 29," respectively. Applicants submit that the amended claims are clear, as are claims 28 and 31, which depend from them. Accordingly, Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn and all of the claims should be allowed together in this application.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 16, 2006

By: 

Kenneth J. Meyers

Reg. No. 25,146

Telephone: (202) 408-4033

e-mail: ken.meyers@finnegan.com